

Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE)
Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council
Wednesday, July 22, 2015
Minutes – Official

The July 22, 2015 meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Advisory Council was called to order at 1:14 P.M. Members present were: Capt. Stacy Barrett, Ms. Melanie Bronfin, Ms. Gina Young Cahee, Ms. Carole Elliot, Mr. James Evans, Ms. Lois Jordan, Ms. Linda Lambert, Ms. Jodi Loar, Ms. Kim Matherne, Ms. Paula Polito, Ms. Cindy Rushing, Ms. Brenda Sharp, Mr. John Warner Smith, Dr. Roberta Vicari, Ms. Carynn Wiggins, and Mr. Alan Young. Ms. Joannette Dunn served as a proxy for Ms. Bonnie Buckelew and Ms. Cynthia Suire served as a proxy for Ms. Amy Zapata. Ms. Angele Ashley, Senator Conrad Appel, Representative Regina Barrow, Ms. Maria Blanco, Ms. Contessia Brooks, Dr. Jeanne Burns, Representative Steve Carter, Mr. Carey Foy, Mr. Steve Gogreve, Mr. Albert Mancuso, Mr. Anthony Recasner and Mr. Kahree Wahid were absent.

Representing the Louisiana Department of Education were Jenna Conway and Derek Little.

Public comment was received from Robbie Gray, Sherry Guarisco, and Toni Ledet.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Ms. Cindy Rushing.

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2015 Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council. The Council's response was as follows:

- 1 On motion of Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Young, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council approved the minutes of the May 27, 2015 meeting of the Council.

Jenna Conway provided a presentation of the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Quarterly Reports- Quarters 1 & 2.

- 2 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Ms. Jordan, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council received the presentation of the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Quarterly Reports- Quarters 1 & 2.

Jenna Conway and Derek Little provided a presentation of the proposed revisions to Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs*.

3 On motion of Ms. Wiggins, and seconded by Ms. Polito, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council endorsed and applauded the proposed revisions to Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs* and recommends that if the number of children served by the Child Care Assistance Program drops below 12,500 and funds are available, the current training and/or employment activity eligibility requirement be reduced.

4 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Dr. Vicari, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council recommended that the LDE provide data to the Council on the implementation of the proposed policy revisions to Bulletin 139, *Louisiana Child Care and Development Fund Programs* at the July 2016 Council meeting and that BESE revisit the policy at their August 2016 meeting with the following priorities:

- reduce the training and/or employment activity eligibility requirement minimum average from 30 hours per week to 25 hours per week;
- increase the infant toddler daily rate differential; and
- transition to a twelve-month flat payment rate.

5 On motion of Ms. Loar, and seconded by Ms. Polito, the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council recommended that the LDE work with members of the Council and special education advocates to develop a proposal related to the Child Care Assistance Program payment and eligibility requirements for children with special needs by March 2016.

6 On motion of Mr. Young, and seconded by Ms. Wiggins, and with no further business to come before the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council, the July 22, 2015 meeting of the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council was adjourned at 4:05 P.M.